3rd September 1928]

Names of villages in Godavari and Kistna districts selected for collection of statistics regarding mortgages.

* 28 Q.—Mr. D. Narayana Raju: With reference to paragraph 37 of the scheme report for the resettlement of Godavari and Kistna districts, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what are the names of villages selected for the collection of statistics relating to mortgages?

A.—The Government have not the names of the villages. The Settlement Officer has been asked to report them.

Depressed Classes

Acquisition of house-sites for the depressed classes.

*29 .Q.—Mr. C. Marudhavanam Pillai: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Government Order was issued last year regarding the acquisition of house-sites by the Labour Department for agricultural labourers;

(*b*) whether the Government Order above referred to specified that in future house-sites should be acquired only for the agricultural labourers of the Adi-Dravida community and not for labourers of other castes;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware of the acquisition by the Labour officers in the Tanjore district of house-sites for labourers other than those of the Adi-Dravida caste; and if so, whether Government propose to take any action in the matter; and

(*d*) whether Government will lay on the table of this House a copy of the Government Order in question together with complete statistics up to date showing the total number of house-sites acquired since the date of the issue of this Government Order, and also how many of these were for Adi-Dravidas and how many for members of other castes?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*d*) Do not arise.

(*c*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer given to question No. 1585 at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 27th February 1928.

Labour

Condition of labourers in Malabar, Coimbatore and Nilgiris districts.

*30 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Labour Commissioner or any Magistrate visited any of the plantations on the hills in Malabar, Coimbatore and Nilgiris districts during the year 1927–28 and enquired into and ascertained the condition of the labour population and the amenities of their life;

(*b*) if so, what reports they have made and what action Government have taken on them; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that there are yet several plantations on those hills in which the ordinary essential requirements as to lodging, medical provision and other amenities of life are not attended to?